



Paintings done by Hermon Carduz on display

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He retired as the head of the department of English, St. Joseph's College, Trichy But Eugene D'Vaz continues to be busy even today. Thanks to his passion for painting which keeps him engaged. During his school days, he would make Xmas cards, paint them using water colours and gift them to friends and relatives. That's how he developed a passion for painting. Since then he has been quite serious about it and takes much effort to perfect his paintings. "I love to play with colours, splashing paint on the canvas. That's one of the most satisfying things I do. Painting has been an integral part of my life all these years and it will continue to be so. There's no age barrier to art," states D'Vaz with a smile. He used to teach students painting apart from taking English classes.

Then, why didn't he take up painting as a full-time profession? "Because I also loved my job as a professor," replies D'Vaz and adds, "Also, artists get minimal opportunities in Trichy to do painting as a full-time job. There are so many colleges in Trichy, but hardly



Eugene D'Vaz



Hermon Carduz

any of them offer courses related to pure arts and applied arts. Students don't prefer to

THEIR PAINT-BRUSH STROKES TOUCH THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

take it up as a full-time job as they don't find it lucrative. Another reason could be lack of family support."

Another person who's does art besides his job as a professor is Hermon Carduz. While he's the director of Leaders' Choice Art Gallery, he's also the head of department of French at St. Joseph's College. He says that his students find it as a stress buster, visiting his gallery. "Once, one of my students, who had suicidal thoughts, came to the art gallery for help. As I was busy then, I asked her to take a stroll inside the art gallery. After

some time, she came back to me and said that she was feeling good. Later, she told me that she was touched by one of my paintings that portrayed the importance of life," recalls Carduz, who has done more than 400 paintings so far.

Surya, one of Craduz's students, who attends evening college, works in the gallery during the day time. He says, "I am so glad to spend time here at the gallery that displays the paintings of my beloved professor. I am inspired by his paintings and find this place as a temple that clears my tensions and confusions."